

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

Disclosure is a pickup device of an apparatus for recording or reproducing information, by irradiation of a light beam, to and from a multi-layered recording medium having a plurality of recording layers laminated through spacer layers and formed on the recording layer a pre-pit region having a reflectivity different from a reflectivity of the surrounding. The device includes an illumination optical system having an objective lens for focusing a light beam onto any of the recording layers of the multi-layered recording medium, and a detecting optical system including a photodetector for receiving and photoelectrically converting reflection light from the recording layer of the multi-layered recording medium through the objective lens. The photodetector has a normalized detector size of a size of  $10 \mu\text{m}^2$  to  $50 \mu\text{m}^2$ .